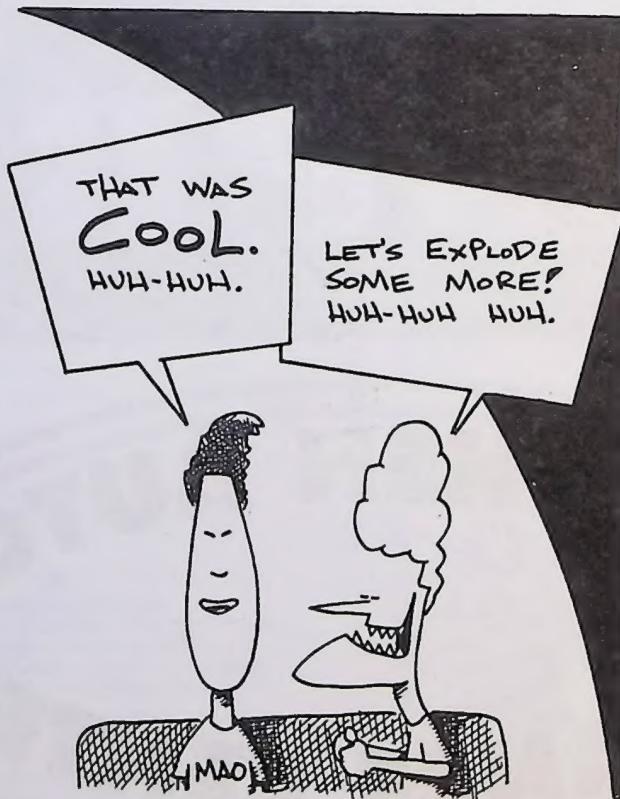


EPISODE #139  
September 14, 1995

# The Valley **COMIC** N • E • W • S

LET'S WATCH AS  
**CHINA'S**  
**NUCLEAR**  
**EXPERTS**  
CONDUCT YET ANOTHER  
**UNDERGROUND**  
**TEST:**

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ENTERTAINMENT LISTINGS!!

STORIES:

USA TODAY  
As THE WORLD SQUIRMS  
ALL MY TRIALS SOON BE OVER  
WHAT THE HEALTH?

INSIDE

FEATURES:

DOONESBURY,  
CALVIN & HOBBS,  
VIEWS OF THE WORLD,  
THIS MODERN WORLD  
TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT,  
L.A. CUCARACHA,  
MIKE CHRISMAN,  
LEOLD,  
KUPER

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# PAGE THREE

by Mike Chrisman



Dear Answer Guy,

Q: You know how sometimes there's these power line wires swooping over the highway, and they put these big red balls on them? What are they? A friend claims they're mail sacks, like in the olden days with trains, and airplanes buzz down to scoop them off the wires.

A: Your friend has the brains of a marmot. If you'd thought for even a nanosecond about power lines, you probably could have figured it out yourself. What holds power lines up, generally? That's right — those enormous metal towers that look so spectacular when they come crashing down in movies. Because power is heavy, man, especially volts. "Volts" even sound heavy, don't they? Just say it: "Volts!" If all those volts weren't supported when they ran across the road in those high tension wires, they'd frequently come careening down onto unsuspecting motorists. Imagine the headlines: "Volts Crush Family of Four in Altoona." And since you can't have a metal tower in the middle of the highway, how do you hold the wires up? Helium balloons, of course. They're painted red to keep the birds away.

Dear Answer Guy,

Q: I just moved to Massachusetts, and I can't figure out this one thing a lot of people say. Here's a for instance — Me: "I've really been working too hard lately." Massachusetts speaker: "So haven't I." This seems like the answer a lunatic might give. What do you think?

A: Alas, you're partly right. Following the Second World War (motto: "The Last War We Won"), the federal government became heavily involved in efforts to "brainwash" people so they wouldn't become Communists and eliminate prayer from public schools. This "brainwashing" effort, using secret means, largely succeeded — except for the Massachusetts "laundromat," where the government tried to save money by using discount "bleaches" and "fabric softeners." Tragically, these low-priced substitutes did more than "wash" brains; they made brains "run," "bleed," and "shrink." When the victims' brains had "dried," they were often hopelessly snarled, and left big clumps in the "lint filter." The greatest damage seems to have been to victims' speech patterns, including the one you mentioned, as well as virtually complete elimination of the letter "r." Gross motor skills, like those used in driving, were also affected. Fifty years later, the government wishes it had kept its paws off these poor souls. So don't they.

Dear Answer Guy,

Q: What's that thing on Dagwood's shirt? It looks like an "O."

A: Not many people realize that back in the 30s, Dagwood's creator, Chic Young, was a member of the International Workers of the World, and a near anarchist. Distinct from many of his bomb-throwing cohorts, though, Young felt he could best further the cause of social justice peacefully, through his cartoons. He created the *petit bourgeois* figure of Dagwood ("comrade" in Russian) to poke ironic fun at the capitalist system. As a further irony, he spelled union songs and slogans across the front of Dagwood's shirt, a letter at a time. He had reached the last chorus of "Joe Hill" when he died an untimely death. That symbol on the shirt is an "O," from "Joe." Young's son requested it remain on all subsequent shirts, as a memorial. I'm surprised somebody hasn't tried to market those shirts; they'd be a big hit in places like Cambridge and Santa Cruz.

The Valley Comic News

P.O. Box 515, Northampton, MA 01061

Publisher/Editor • Mike Chrisman Founder • David Hooks  
 Co-Publisher • Izzy Gesell Advertising Director/Co-Publisher • Silvana Gravini  
 Co-Publisher • Hank Ryan Printing • The Recorder • Greenfield, Mass.  
 Copying • Paradise Copies Ad Production • Brett Kime, Monique Bourgeois  
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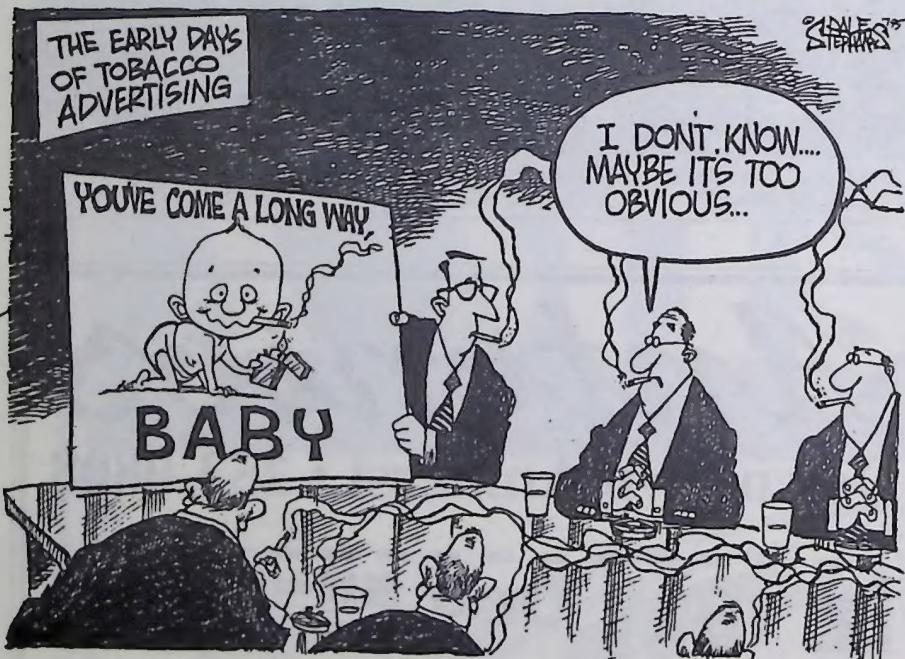
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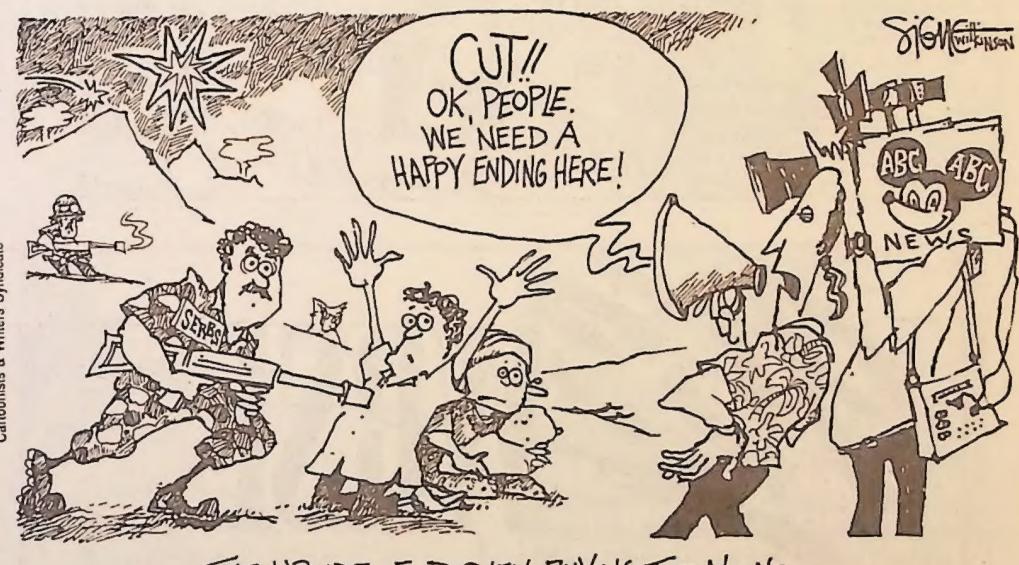
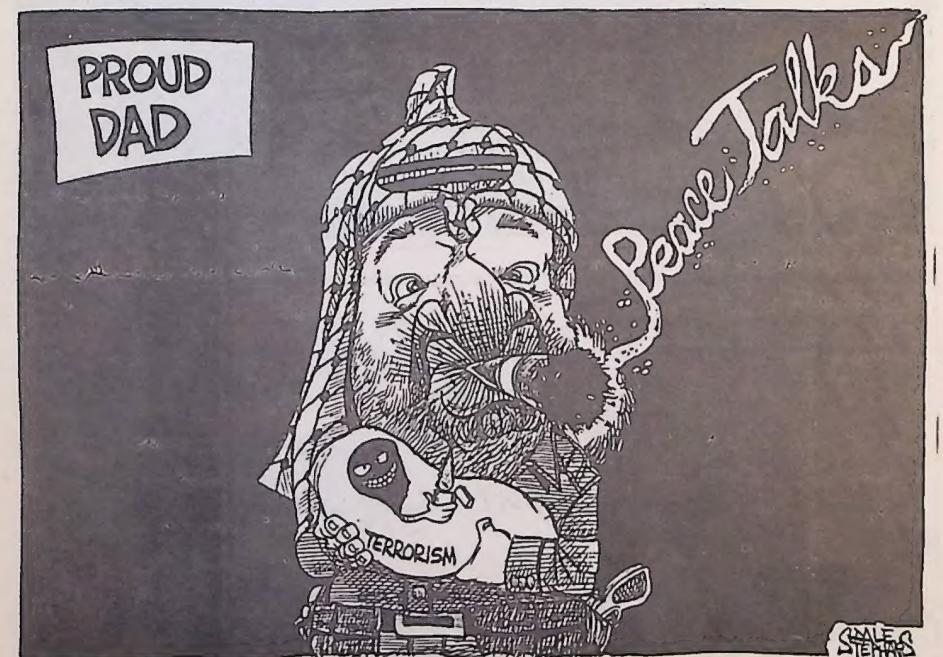
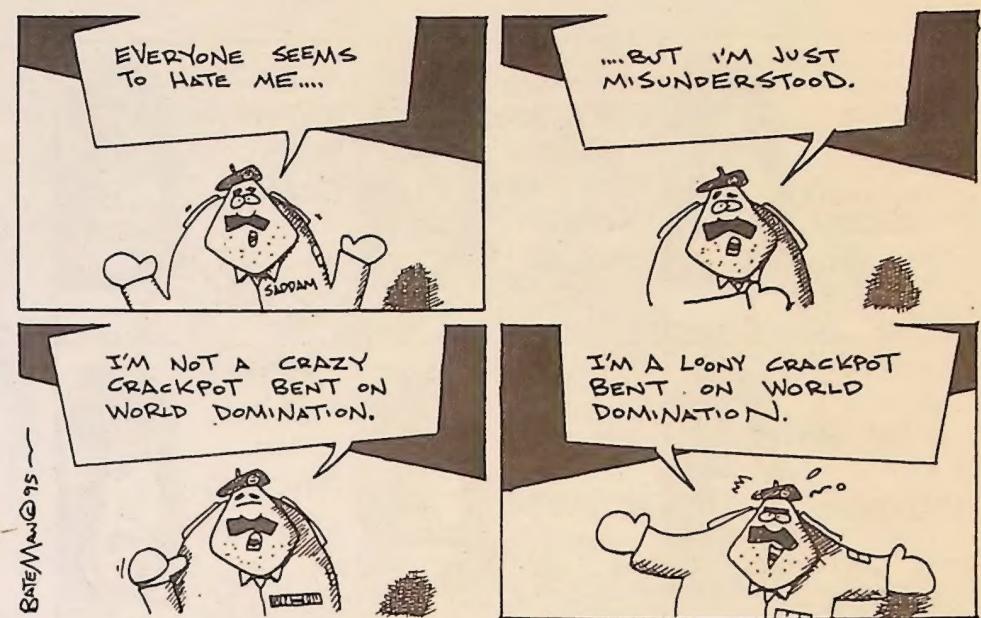
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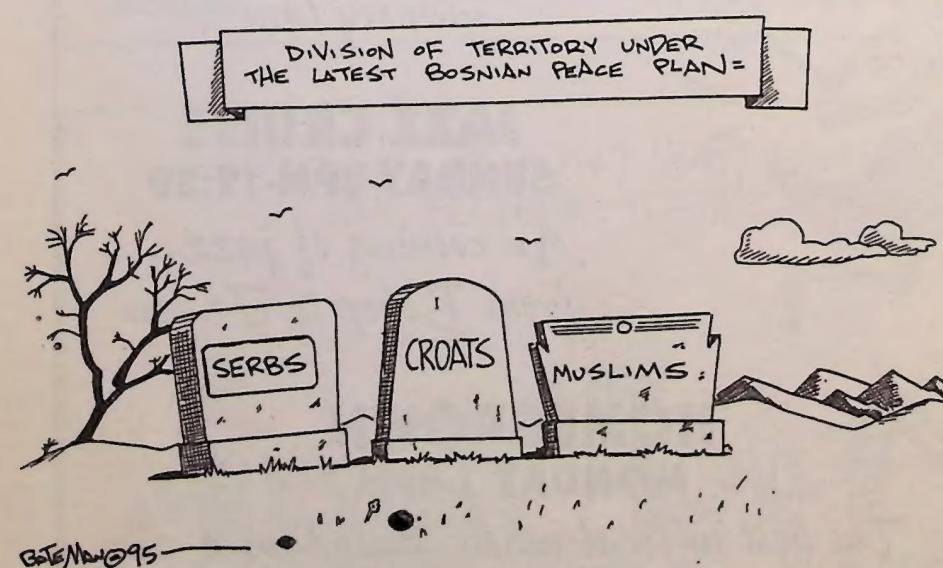


# AS THE WORLD SQUIRMS

Cartoonists & Writers Syndicate

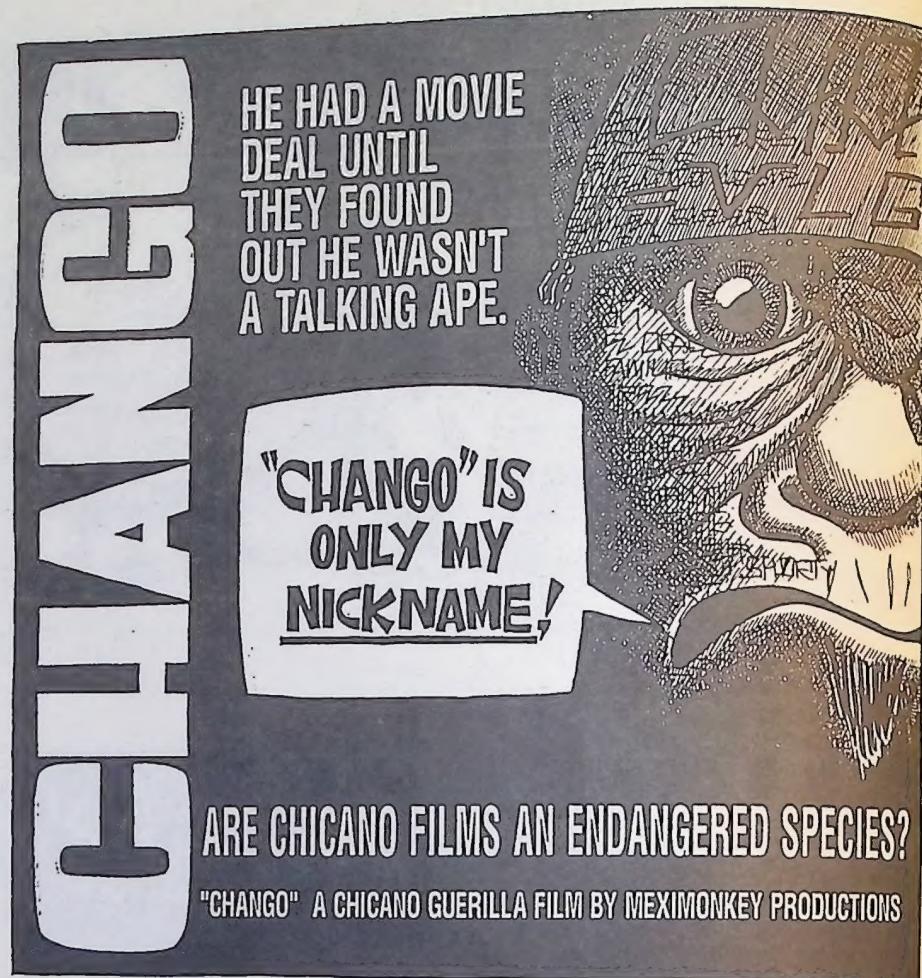


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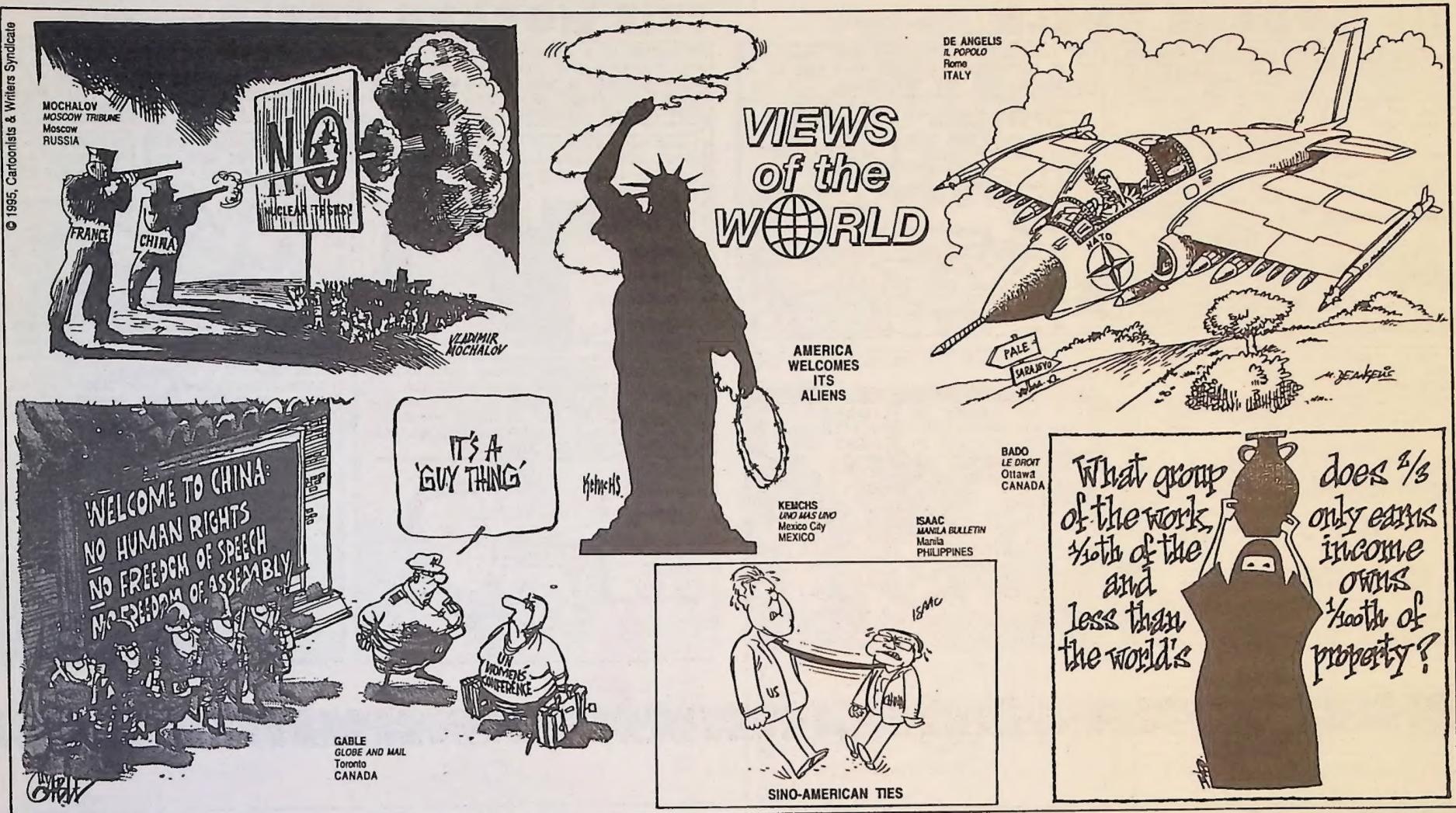
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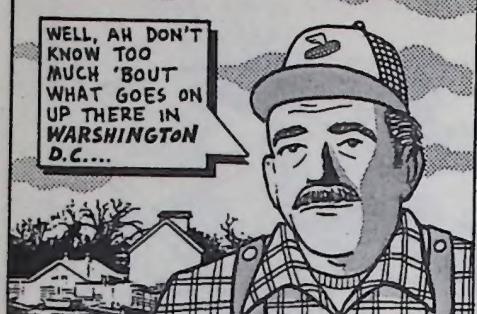
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# THIS MODERN WORLD BY TOM TOMORROW

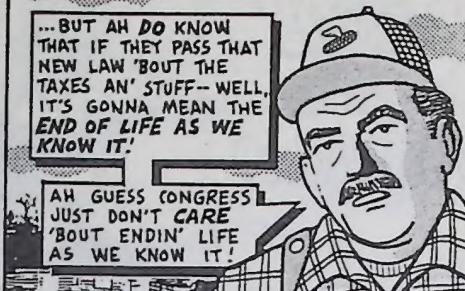
## THIS MODERN WORLD

TM TOMORROW © 8-30-95

STEP ONE: HIRE A FOLKSY, HOMESPUN NARRATOR.

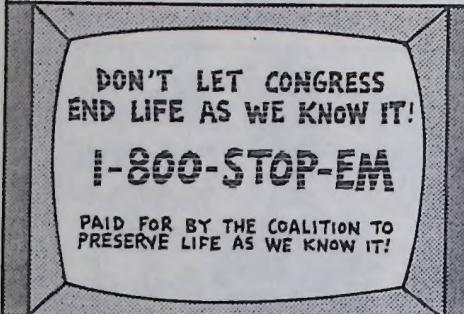


STEP TWO: HAVE HIM DESCRIBE SOME PENDING BIT OF LEGISLATION IN TERMS THAT ARE AS VAGUE AS THEY ARE ALARMING.



AH GUESS CONGRESS JUST DON'T CARE 'BOUT ENDIN' LIFE AS WE KNOW IT!

STEP THREE: PROVIDE A TOLL-FREE NUMBER CITIZENS CAN CALL TO EXPRESS THEIR NEW-FOUND CONCERN.



STEP FOUR: VOILA! IT'S DEMOCRACY IN THE NINETIES!



YES! WE'D BETTER CALL RIGHT AWAY!

## THIS MODERN WORLD

TM TOMORROW © 9-13-95

FUTURISM IS A GROWTH INDUSTRY THESE DAYS! MORNING NEWS SHOWS JUST AREN'T COMPLETE WITHOUT A SELF-PROCLAIMED CYBER-PUNDIT CHEERFULLY DESCRIBING THE BRAVE NEW WORLD AWAITING US ALL!



WELL I'LL BE! ISN'T THAT SOMETHING!

OF COURSE, THE FUTURE DOESN'T ALWAYS LIVE UP TO ITS BILLING... FOR INSTANCE, YOU MAY HAVE NOTICED A DISTINCT SHORTAGE OF DOMED CITIES, FLYING CARS, AND MOON COLONIES AS WE APPROACH THE MILLENNIUM...



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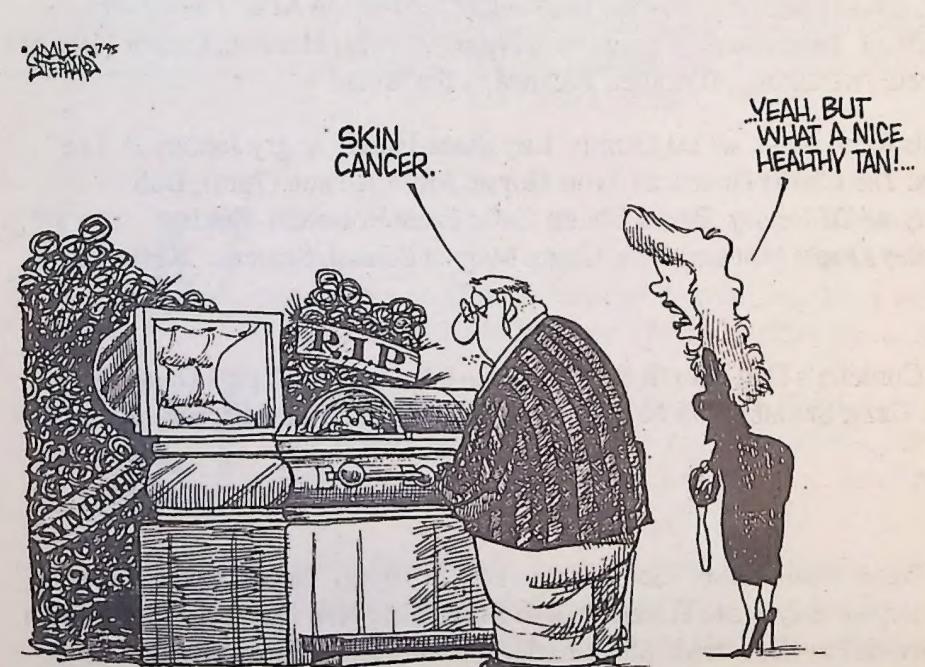
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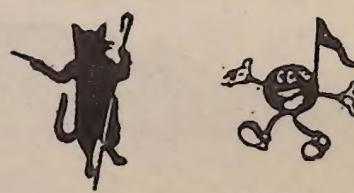
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Sat. Sep. 23 - 7:30 pm - All Ages	MEPHISKAPHELES SPRING HEELED JACK
Tue. Sep. 26 - 8:00 pm - 18+	BELLY
Thu. Sep. 28	LIFE OF AGONY
Fri. Sep. 29	BIM SKALA BIM
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Sun. Oct. 1 - 8:00 pm - 18+	MACEO PARKER

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# THU FOURTEEN

Katina's: Selectrocution Seven O's: DJ Stephan Warren Pearl Street: Juliana Hatfield, plus 18+ dance music by Spin, Inc. Alley Oops: Karaoke w/ a theme (funniest song) North Star: Tropical Party Night w/ DJ CPR, plus darts tournament Peking Garden/Humorworks: Latin Nights Party Northampton Center for the Arts: *The Chairs* (Ionesco) Bay State Hotel: Rosemary Caine, Waif Iron Horse: Tania Maria (7pm), Vertical Horizon, Guster (10pm) Green River Cafe: hardcore show — Hatebreed, Holdstrong, Bloodlet, Balance of the World

# FRI FIFTEEN

Pearl Street: Chucklehead, Johnny Socko, plus Retro night, w/ DJ Dennis Bay State Hotel: Angry Johnny & The Killbillies Northampton Center for the Arts: *The Chairs* (Ionesco) Iron Horse: Mose Allison (7pm), Bob Margolin (10pm) North Star: 18+ Dance party w/ DJ Betsey Black Sheep Cafe: Dana Robinson Peking Garden/Humorworks: Latin Nights Party Alley Oops: Mother Holly, Green Magnet School, Semenis Katina's: K-Funk All Stars Green River Cafe: Anni Clark

# SAT SIXTEEN

Katina's: Selectrocution Green River Cafe: Cordelia's Dad North Star: Laura Anderson Wood, plus Dance Nite w/ DJ Steven Bay State Hotel: Vehicle Flips, Tizzy, Skylab Iron Horse: Sir Roland Hanna Pearl Street: modern rock dance party Alley Oops: 2nd Nature

# SUN SEVENTEEN

Northampton Brewery: Serpico, Chet Keefe Band Iron Horse: Richie Havens (7 & 10pm) Green River Cafe: chapbook reading — Sally Bellerose, Emma Morgan Bay State Hotel: North Star: Girlz Nite Out featuring P-Town Tea Dance 6-9pm, DJ Betsey 9-12 Peking Garden/Humorworks: Steve Faria, special guests Pearl Street: Korn, Orange 9MM

# MON EIGHTEEN

Bay State Hotel: Blue Monday, w/ Ed Vadas & The Fabulous Heavyweights (free!) Fire & Water: Open stage Iron Horse: Maura O'Connell, Darden Smith North Star: C & W Nite w/ DJ Sparkie Seven O's: line dancing lessons

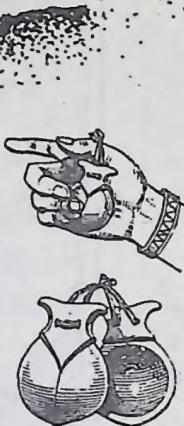
# TUE NINETEEN

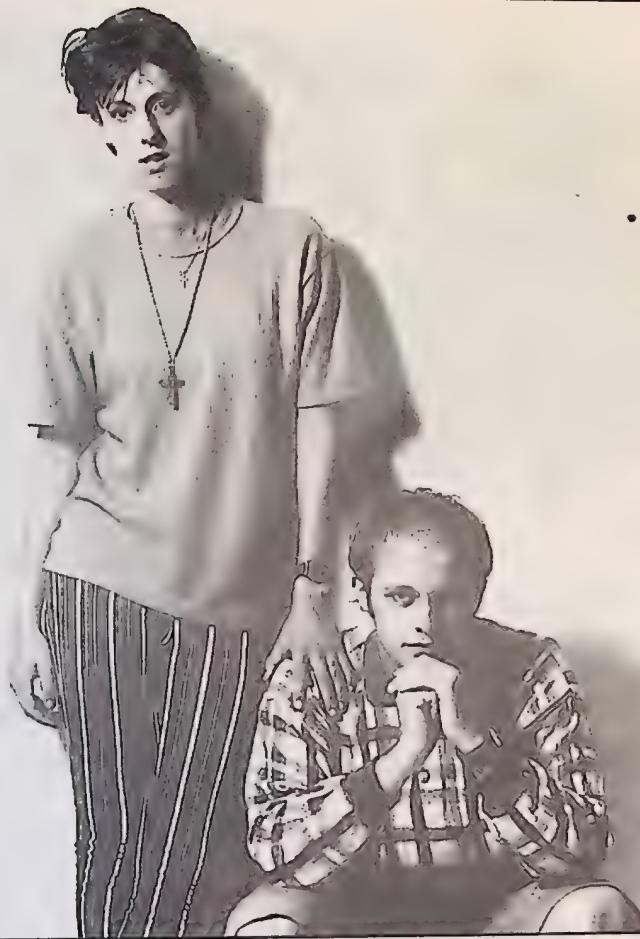
Hadley Pub: open mic Northampton Brewery: Open mic, w/ host Frank Manzi Pearl Street: God Street Wine North Star: Boyz Nite Out w/ DJ Steven (swing dancing) Iron Horse: The Innocence Mission, w/ special guest

# WED TWENTY

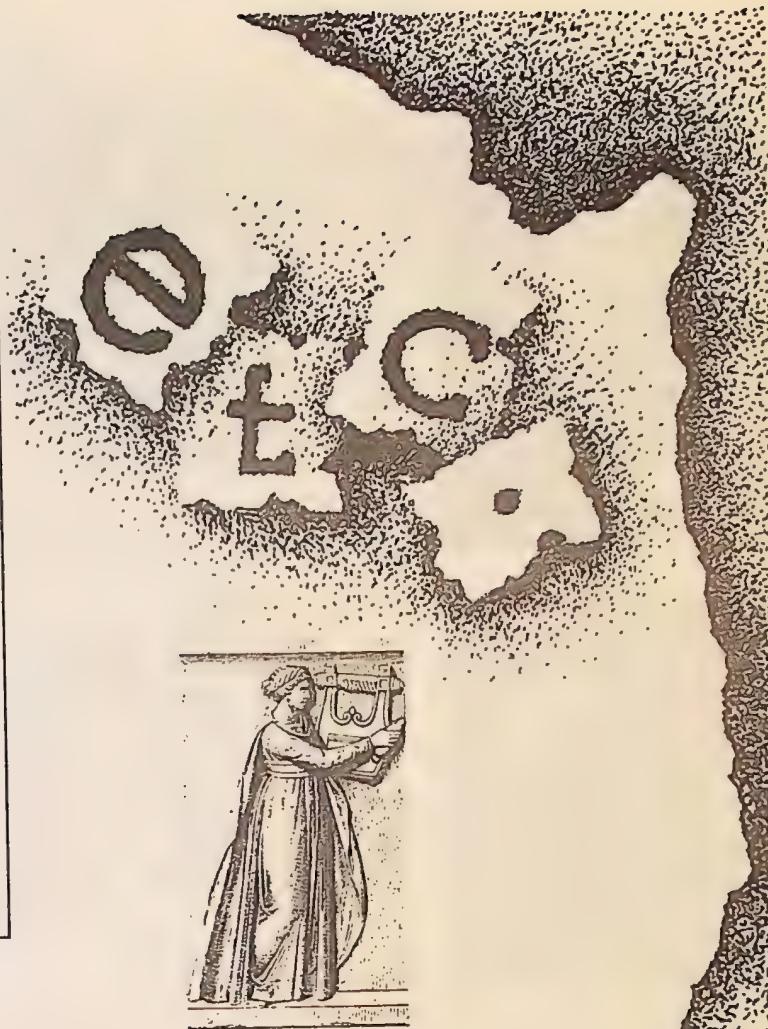
Iron Horse: moe, Chin Ho Bay State Hotel: Bay State electric open (no cover!) Pearl Street: Gay Night — w/ special guest DJs North Star: Pool Tournament Fire & Water: Word on Wednesday — open poetry (7pm) Green River Cafe: Atomic Scissors, The Cry Babies Katina's: Blues Jam w/ Mark Nomad

# WEEKENDS





K's Choice, at rest



**THU**  
TWENTYONE

**Pearl Street:** Home, Phineas Gage, plus 18+ dance party, w/ Nick Danger **Alley Oops:** Karaoke **Green River Cafe:** hardcore show — Inquisition, Jastah 14, Meristem **North Star:** Tropical Party Night w/ DJ CPR, plus darts tournament **Seven O's:** DJ Stephan Warren **Academy of Music:** Patty Larkin, Vance Gilbert **Katina's:** Selectrocution **Iron Horse:** Leon Redbone (7pm), Heather Nova, Ben Folds Five (10pm) **Bay State Hotel:** The Chesterfield Kings

**FRI**  
TWENTYTWO

**Katina's:** K-Funk All Stars **Bay State Hotel:** Jaya the Cat, Flycatcher **Peking Garden/Humorworks:** Latin Nights Party **Iron Horse:** Junior Brown (7pm), J Mascis unplugged (10pm) **Green River Cafe:** Honest Bob, Falafel Boy **North Star:** 18+ Dance Party w/ DJ Betsey **Pearl Street:** Synesthesia, plus Retro night w/ DJ Dennis

**SAT**  
TWENTYTHREE

**Green River Cafe:** Jamie Anderson **Katina's:** Selectrocution **Iron Horse:** Hal Ketchum **Pearl Street:** Mephiskapheles, Spring Heeled Jack, plus modern rock dance party **Peking Garden/Humorworks:** Latin Nights Party **Northampton Center for the Arts:** Danse Afrique **Smith College, John M. Greene Hall:** Ani DiFranco **North Star:** 21+ Dance Nite w/ DJ Steven **Greenfield Moose Club:** Debbie Weyl Band

**SUN**  
TWENTYFOUR

**Iron Horse:** Scud Mountain Boys, Five Chinese Brothers **North Star:** Girlz Nite Out — P-Town Tea Dance 6-9pm, DJ Betsey 9-12 **Northampton Brewery:** Humbert, New Radiant Storm King **Amherst College:** Bryndle (Karla Bonoff, Wendy Waldman, Andrew Gold, Kenny Edwards)

**MON**  
TWENTYFIVE

**North Star:** C & W Nite w/ DJ Sparkie **Northampton Brewery:** Women's Spotlight Concert Series, featuring Kim Zombik with Tom McClung **Bay State Hotel:** Blue Monday, w/ Ed Vadas & The Fabulous Heavyweights (free!) **Fire & Water:** Open Stage (8pm) **Seven O's:** Line dancing lessons **Iron Horse:** Robert Earl Keen, Tanya Savory

**TUE**  
TWENTYSIX

**Hadley Pub:** open mic **North Star:** Boyz Nite Out w/ DJ Steven (swing dancing) **Pearl Street:** Belly **Iron Horse:** Dude of Life (7 & 10pm) **Northampton Brewery:** open mic w/ host Stu Getz

**WED**  
TWENTYSEVEN

**Katina's:** Blues Jam, w/ Mark Nomad **Bay State Hotel:** Bay State electric open (no cover) **Pearl Street:** Gay Night, w/ special guest DJs **Fire & Water:** Word on Wednesday — open poetry (7pm) **Northampton Brewery:** Homegrown Concert Series — Mark Herschler **North Star:** Tropical Party Nite w/ DJ CPR **Katina's:** Selectrocution



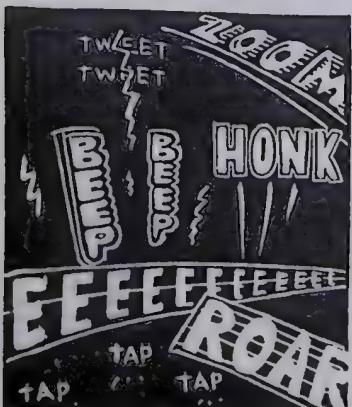
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Danny Miller and Terry Gross of NPR's Fresh Air  
are astonished by The Valley Comic News

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## Leold

by Roger & Salem Salloom

I got a cousin who moved to Hollywood to try to make it big.

I don't think she's in movies yet, but she's got a job as a secretary at some kind of talent search agency.

The name of the agency is:  
**Lose Some Weight and Move to Hollywood.**

Every time I call them I get confused...I think they're telling me to move to California and lose some weight. I usually start telling the receptionist that I'm very happy where I live but....

She talks very fast and puts me on hold and I never get to talk to my cousin because I can't hold long distance for very long.

I get confused every time they answer the phone:

**"Lose Some Weight and Move to Hollywood...Can I Help You?"**

So, finally I said to her....  
"Yeah, you can help me....how do I lose some weight?"



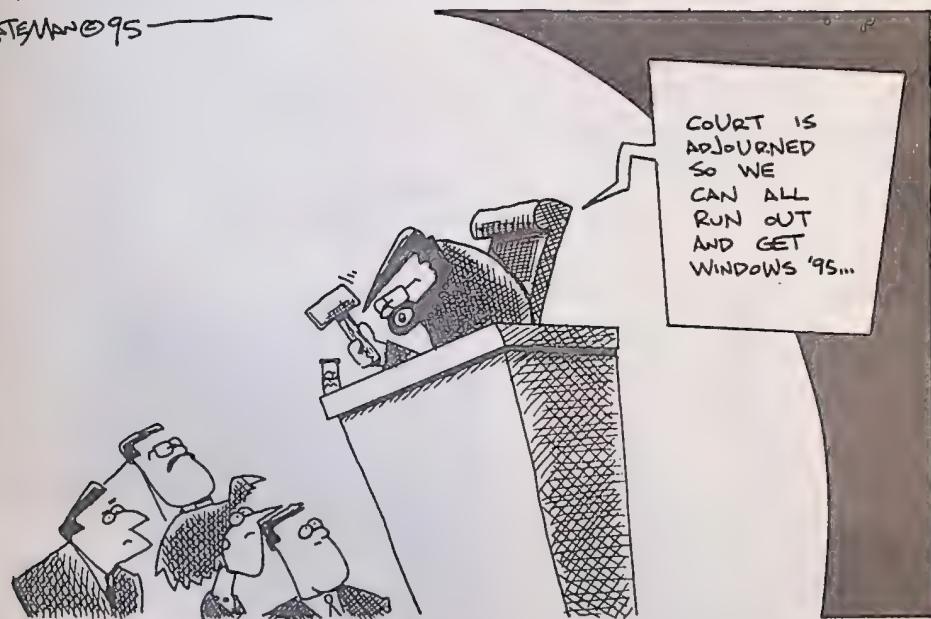
# ALL MY TRIALS SOON BE OVER

SCALES STAFFERS



WELCOME TO THE KATO  
KAE LIN SHOW...  
TODAY'S QUESTION:  
CAN ANYBODY OUT  
THERE PUT ME UP  
FOR AWHILE?...

BETMAN © 95 —



THIS TAPE HAS  
THE "N" WORD, INSULTS  
WOMEN, AND DESCRIBES  
HOW CORRUPT THE  
L.A. COPS ARE...

WHO IS IT,  
SOME NEW  
GANGSTA' RAPPER?...

NO, MARK  
FUHRMAN...



SCALES  
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# TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT by L.M. Boyd

Q: President Herbert Hoover and his First Lady talked to each other in secret code, didn't they?

A: Not exactly. They both spoke Chinese well enough for private comment in the presence of people who didn't.

You knew "goodbye" dates back to "God be with you." But you can see it better in the original spelling: "Godbwyē."

Beluga whales play tag.

A law in Nepal stipulates that nobody has the right to try to convert somebody from one religion to another.

Traffic statisticians say the accident rate of 75-year-old drivers is just about the same as that of 16-year-old drivers.

You can see about 200 miles into the sun's surface.

There's a kind of miniature monster called the flower mite that moves from home to home in the nostrils of hummingbirds.

Wolves seem to understand combat, but not old age, says an expert. If one dies fighting, they pay little attention. If one just dies, they circle the body, then alternately howl and sit silently.

In much of Asia it's an offense to pat a child on the head.

Q: How does a chameleon change its color?

A: Tiny branched cells under its skin contain different pigments. These cell branches contract or expand in response to light, temperature, excitement, or fear. The pigments' positions change, and those that move toward the skin surface create the color of the moment.

It was Erma Bombeck who said, "The only reason I'd take up jogging is so I could hear heavy breathing again."

Only animal a tiger won't attack is a grown elephant.

If starting your own business is what you'd like to do, please note: studies at Tulane suggest the average entrepreneur fails 3.8 times before making it work.

Reports are that three categories of people read the lonely hearts columns — the lonely, the curious, and the FBI.

Do you think you've ever had "contact with the dead?" One survey purports to prove 40 percent of the population nationwide believe they have.

Q: Who was the first black head coach in major league professional sports?

A: Bill Russell of the Celtics in 1966.

Ancient Egyptians made room in their mythology for a god named Sia whose only chore was to protect the genitals of the dead.

Dorothy Parker, the renowned wit and essayist, wrote: "This is not a novel to be tossed aside lightly. Throw it with great force."

"Teen" is a Scottish word for grief.

Drinking hot water dilates your vessels. More blood gets to your brain faster. The medico who says so thinks it's the coffee's heat, not its caffeine, that first kicks you into gear in the morning.

The sun trembles, rhythmically, the way Jell-o trembles. But it's a big bowlful, so it only shows one vibration about every five minutes.

"It is my heart-warming and world-embracing hope," said Mark Twain, "that all of us — the high, the low, the rich, the poor, the admired, the despised, the loved, the hated, the civilized, and the savage — may eventually be gathered in a heaven of everlasting rest and peace and bliss — except the inventor of the telephone."

Q: Why do birds fly low just before storms?

A: Lowering air pressure hurts their ears.

What foreign language will be the most useful to the young executive in the next 20 years? Pollsters put that query to business people nationwide, and 44 percent said Spanish.

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that a mother nurse her baby for a full year.

Standard paid vacation in the Netherlands is 36 days.

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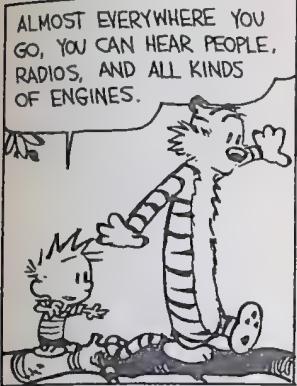


Erin Bohannon of Greenfield cleverly uses The Valley Comic News as a sunscreen in Jacksonville Beach, Fla.

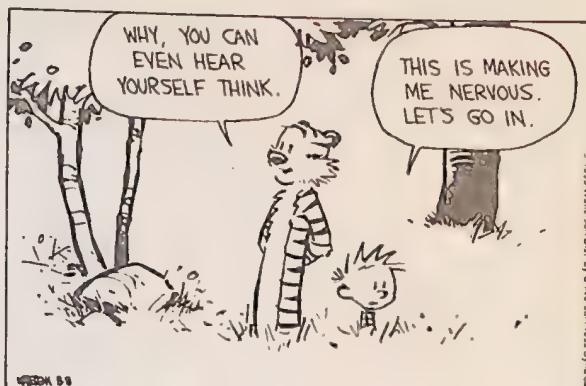


# calvin and Hobbes

by BILL WATTERSON



WHEN YOU'RE ACTUALLY CONFRONTED WITH THE STILLNESS OF NATURE, IT'S KIND OF STARTLING.



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# Doonesbury

BY G.B. TRUDEAU



...OTHERWISE IT RUNS APPLICATIONS AT A CRAWL. IT ALSO WANTS A FASTER MICROPROCESSOR AND 35 MEGABYTES ON THE HARD DRIVE...

...WITH 89 MORE FOR  
OFFICE PROGRAMS, AND...  
HEY... IT JUST TURNED  
ON THE PRINTER!

IT'S A COMPLETE LIST  
OF ITS DEMANDS!  
GIVE NO QUARTER!  
HOLD IT TO ITS BOX SPECS!



ICONS JUST LIKE APPLE'S,  
FILES AND FOLDERS JUST  
LIKE APPLE'S, TASK BARS,  
MENUS, TRASH FUNCTIONS -  
THE WHOLE APPLE DESKTOP ENVIRONMENT!

MAN... THEY CAN  
GET AWAY WITH THAT?  
CHECK THE BACK OF  
THE BOX.

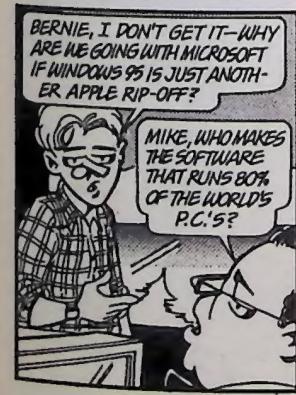
"THIS PRODUCT  
SUPPORTED BY  
3,000 LAWYERS."  
THAT'S ONE HELLUVA  
PLATFORM.



OH, YEAH?  
HOW'S IT  
LOOK?

DON'T KNOW  
YET. I'M STILL  
TRYING TO  
CLEAR ENOUGH  
MEMORY FOR IT...

Attention User: You  
call this capacity?  
Reboot when you're  
ready to play.  
SON OF A...  
IT'S DISSSING  
MY HARD  
DRIVE!  
BACK OFF,  
HANK. DON'T  
MAKE IT  
LOSE FACE...



MICROSOFT,  
OF COURSE.  
AND DOES  
THE WORLD  
RUN ON  
COMPUTERS?

SURE.  
SO WHO  
RULES  
THE  
WORLD?

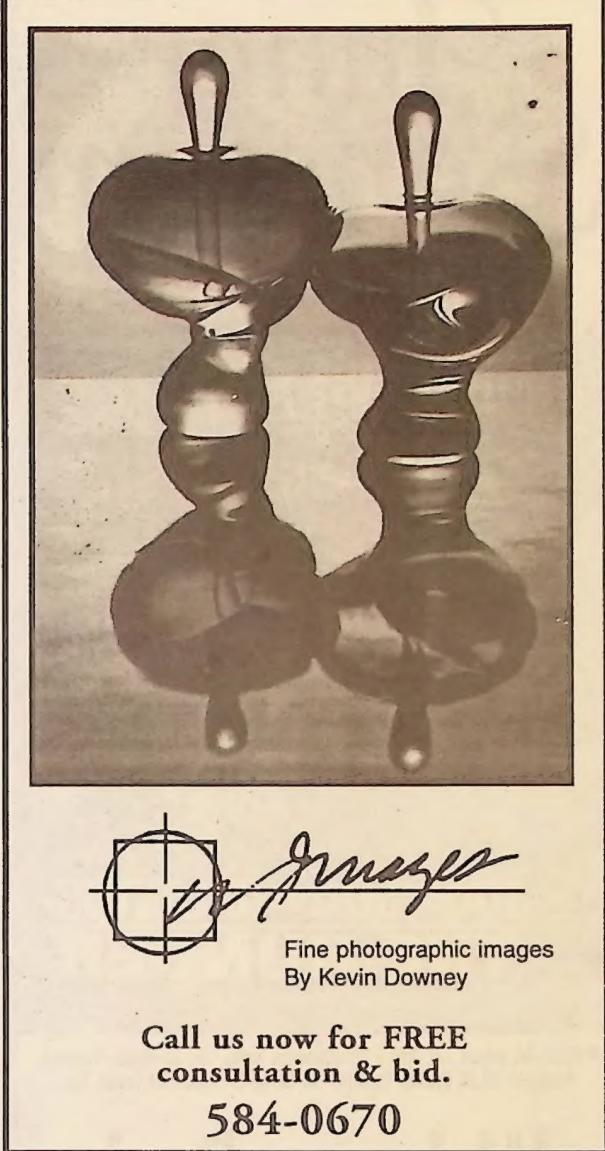
: SIGH... WHY  
DON'T WE JUST  
GIVE BILL GATES  
ALL THE MONEY  
NOW AND GET IT  
OVER WITH?  
PRIDE.



YOU GOTTA DISCOUNT ANY  
NEGATIVE BUZZ YOU HEAR.  
A LOT OF IT'S JEALOUSY.  
WHO WOULDN'T WANT TO BE  
SITTING WHERE GATES IS?

I MYSELF WOULD LOVE TO HAVE  
A STRANGLEHOLD ON A WHOLE  
INDUSTRY. I'VE OFTEN FANTA-  
SIZED ABOUT GETTING THAT  
FIRST PHONE CALL FROM THE  
JUSTICE DEPARTMENT!

YOU  
HAVE?  
ABSOLUTELY.  
THAT'S  
WHEN YOU'VE  
ARRIVED!



**Send a reminder of  
home  
to all those  
students  
toiling in faraway  
universities.**

**Send a gift subscrip-  
tion to  
The Valley Comic  
News.**

**They'll say,  
"Thanks, folks."**



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THE HUNGER**

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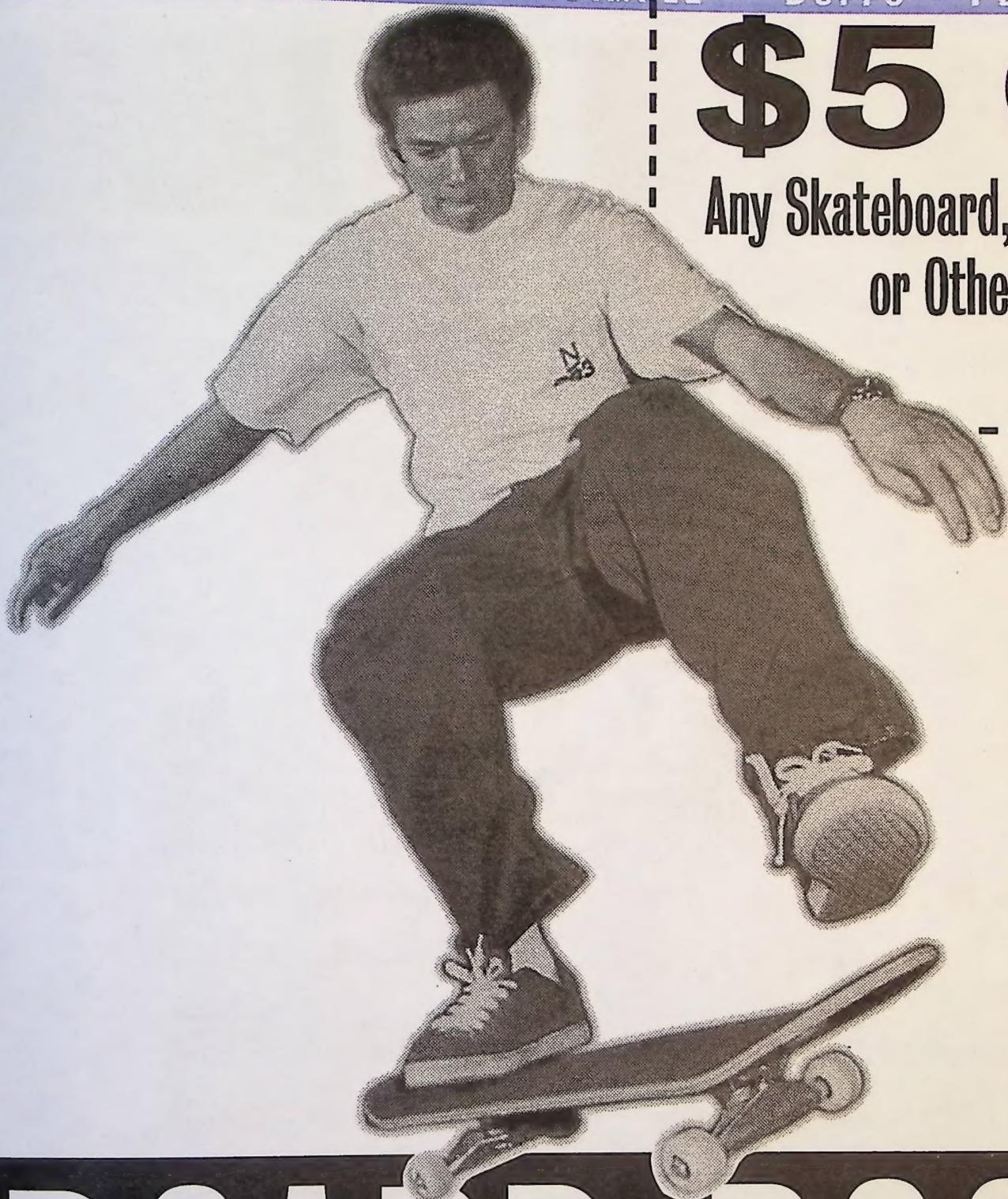
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# BOARD ROOM

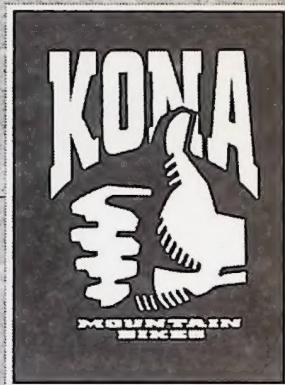
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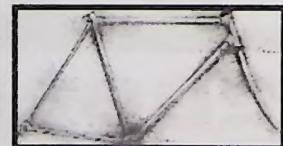
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